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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
Hiroyuki MATSUO, et al. : Confirmation Number: 1520
Application No.: 09/977,487 : Group Art Unit: 2675
Filed: October 16, 2001 : Examiner: A.A. Awad
For: ELECTRONIC PAPER FILE :

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In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

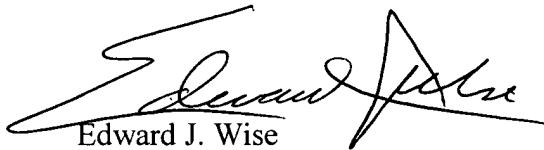
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Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 28, 2004



SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (PTO-1449)				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 50023-156	SERIAL NO. 09/977,487	
				APPLICANT Hiroyuki MATSUO, et al.	RECEIVED NOV 01 2004	
				FILING DATE October 16, 2001	GROUP Technology Center 2600	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ₂ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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						Yes
		JP 04-355786	12/09/92	Hitachi Ltd.		X
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